

KENTUCKY FARMS WITH IRRIGATION - 1998

Irrigation was used on 953 Kentucky farms in 1998 with 25,454 acres of crops and pasture irrigated. Fewer than 50 acres were irrigated on over 90 percent of the farms having irrigation. The average amount of water applied on the irrigated acres was .8 acre foot per acre resulting in a total of 20,032 acre feet of water applied on the 25,454 acres. Ninety percent of the farms utilized sprinklers to apply the water. Drip and gravity irrigation were also utilized. The primary source of irrigation water was from on-farm sources such as ponds, streams, and springs. Tobacco was the major crop irrigated in Kentucky with 11,746 irrigated acres.

Corn and soybean acres irrigated totaled approximately 6,000 acres for each crop.

Irrigated farms in the United States for 1998 totaled 182,101. These farms reported irrigating 50,028,439 acres. Approximately 12,000 farms in the United States irrigated 1,000 or more acres accounting for more than 23,000,000 acres irrigated. The primary sources of water for farms irrigating in the United States were wells and off-farm water suppliers such as irrigation districts, cooperatives, and community water systems.

FARMS BY IRRIGATED ACRES - 1998

| ACRES IRRIGATED | KENTUCKY | | UNITED STATES | |
|--------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | FARMS | ACRES IRRIGATED | FARMS | ACRES IRRIGATED |
| 1 - 9 | 508 | 2,460 | 38,255 | 159,239 |
| 10 - 49 | 359 | 7,029 | 44,846 | 1,133,713 |
| 50 - 99 | 48 | 2,981 | 17,950 | 1,257,718 |
| 100 - 199 | 15 | D | 24,314 | 3,353,676 |
| 200 - 499 | 14 | 4,365 | 27,492 | 8,757,757 |
| 500 - 999 | 8 | 5,419 | 17,246 | 11,973,745 |
| 1,000 or more | 1 | D | 11,998 | 23,392,591 |
| TOTAL | 953 | 25,454 | 182,101 | 50,028,439 |

D - Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.

IRRIGATED FARMS BY SOURCE OF WATER - 1998

| SOURCE OF WATER | KENTUCKY | | UNITED STATES | |
|--------------------|----------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | FARMS | ACRES IRRIGATED ^{1/} | FARMS | ACRES IRRIGATED ^{1/} |
| Wells | 59 | 11,005 | 83,729 | 29,790,719 |
| On-Farm Surface | 864 | 14,032 | 36,876 | 6,838,429 |
| Off-Farm Suppliers | 46 | 526 | 83,382 | 15,072,977 |

^{1/}/Acres irrigated may not sum to total due to water from more than one source applied to the same acres.

SELECTED KENTUCKY CROPS IRRIGATED - 1998

| CROP | ACRES IRRIGATED |
|------------|-----------------|
| Tobacco | 11,746 |
| Corn | 6,122 |
| Soybeans | 5,906 |
| Vegetables | 495 |
| Alfalfa | 225 |
| Potatoes | 156 |
| Orchards | 55 |
| Berries | 31 |